PATENT
IOS9601CIPD

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: D'Ausilio, et al.

Examiner: Swiatek, Robert P.

Serial No.: 10/779,869

Group Art Unit: 3643

Title: **In Orbit Space Transportation & Recovery System**

Filed: 17 February 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.8

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR Section 1.8 on the date indicated below and is addressed to The Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Thomas N. Giaccherini, Registration No. 31,075 Date 14 July 2005.

FOURTH DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The Applicants submit this Fourth Disclosure Statement in accordance with 37 CFR Sections 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98 to disclose the results of an International Search Report that was issued by the United States Patent Office for a corresponding PCT International Patent Application No. PCT/US03/32748 on 30 June 2005. A copy of the US ISR is attached. A completed PTO Form-SB/08A&B accompanies this Fourth Disclosure Statement.

DISCLOSURE DOCUMENTS

Document 4A

Minovitch- U.S. Patent No. 4,754,601

discloses "a propulsion system for reusable space-based vehicles is presented wherein the propulsive working fluid is atmospheric gas."

This document was previously disclosed to the Patent Office in a First Disclosure Statement filed for the Present Patent Application on 27 September 2004.

Document 4B

Scott- U.S. Patent No. 6,017,000

discloses "apparatus and methods for performing satellite proximity operations."

Document 4C

Minovitch- U.S. Patent No. 3,825,211

discloses a "space vehicle [which] carries a vaporizable propellant....[E]nergy is transmitted to the vehicle while in space by a laser beam originating on the ground or some other body or satellite."

This document was previously disclosed to the U.S. Patent Office in a First Disclosure Statement filed for the Present Patent Application on 27 September 2004.

Document 4D

DeYoung- U.S. Patent No. 5,260,639

discloses "a method of supplying power to a device such as a lunar rover located on a planetary surface."

This document was previously disclosed to the U.S. Patent Office in a First Disclosure Statement filed for the Present Patent Application on 27 September 2004.

Document 4E

Basuthakur- U.S. Patent No. 5,779,195

discloses "a satellite assembly [that] is formed from any number of bus modules which have a substantially common shape and interior space volume."

This document was previously disclosed to the U.S. Patent Office in a First Disclosure Statement filed for the Present Patent Application on 27 September 2004.

Document 4F

Oh- U.S. Patent No. 6,478,257

discloses "systems and methods that employ a phase change material to provide thermal control of electric propulsion devices."

This document was previously disclosed to the U.S. Patent Office in a First Disclosure Statement filed for the Present Patent Application on 27 September 2004.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants submit that none of the documents described above disclose the Invention as claimed in the present Patent Application, as revised by the First Preliminary Amendment which was submitted by Applicants. A substantive First Office Action has not yet issued for the Present Application. In accordance with 37 CFR Section 1.97(b)(3), the Applicants believe that no fee is required to submit this Fourth Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

14 July 2005.

Thomas N. Giaccherini,
Applicants' Attorney
Registration No. 31,075

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PTO/SB/08A (07-05)
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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet One of One

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/779,869
Filing Date	17 February 2004
First Named Inventor	D'Ausilio
Art Unit	3643
Examiner Name	Swiatek
Attorney Docket Number	IOS9601CIPD

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Document Number Number-Kind Code[2] *(if known)*	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	4A	US- 4 754 601		Minovitch	
	4B	US- 6 017 000		Scott	
	4C	US- 3 825 211		Minovitch	
	4D	US- 5 260 639		De Young	
	4E	US- 5 779 195		Basuthakur	
	4F	US- 6 478 257		Oh	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document Country Code[3]-Number[4]-Kind Code[5] *(if known)*	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T[6]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. [1] Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). [2] See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. [3] Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [4] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [5] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [6] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.